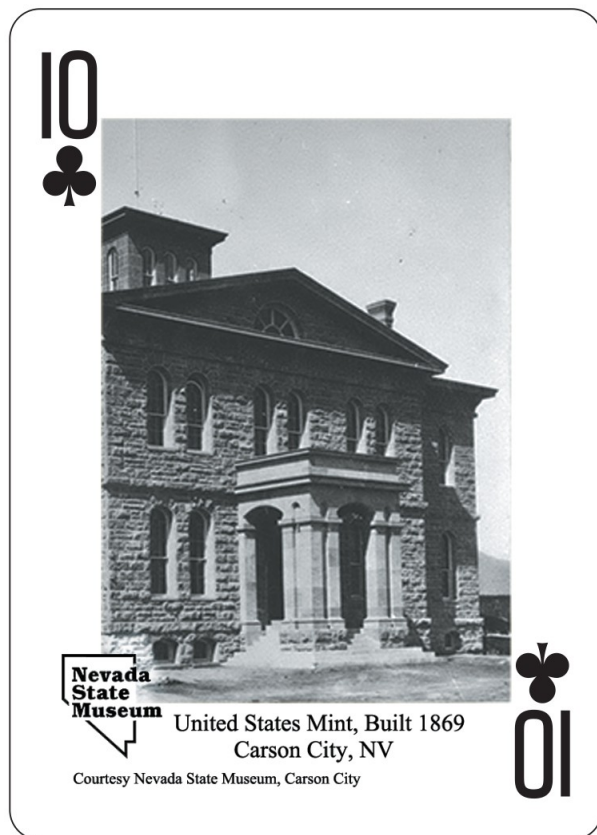


# United States Mint National Register Site



With an abundance of silver from the booming Comstock Lode it was determined that Carson City would make an ideal location for a U.S. Mint, one of seven buildings serving as mints in the U.S. over the last 200 years. The mint at Carson City was a physical manifestation of the success of the Comstock Lode since it showed Federal recognition of the value of the mines located in the "hinterlands" of Nevada. Although Congress established the Carson City Mint in 1863, the Civil War delayed its construction.

Groundbreaking ceremonies took place on July 18, 1866. The Mint opened in December 1869, with Abraham Curry, founder of Carson City, as the first superintendent. This picture was taken in 1870.

Alfred Mullett, newly appointed supervising architect for the U.S. Treasury Department, designed the Carson City Mint. The Mint shows Mullett's early fascination with the Classical tradition, a style that predominated in the great post-Civil War building programs. Most of the original building remains intact, and all materials for the Mint are native to Nevada. The sandstone was quarried at the State Prison, the brick was manufactured at the Adams Brick Works in Genoa (operated by John Quincy Adams' grandsons), and the interior wainscoting was milled from Tahoe sugar pine.

The Carson City U.S. Mint's formal mint status was withdrawn in 1899, due to the drastic decline in mining on the Comstock. Afterward it served as an assay office. The Mint was remodeled to serve as the Nevada State Museum in 1941. Today the Mint's Press No. 1 resides at the museum.

For more information on touring Carson City please visit:

<http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/nevada/index.htm>

